

Minutes of the Puerto Rican Bar Association of  
New Jersey General Meeting held on January 31, 1981

The General Assembly of the members of the  
Puerto Rican Bar Association of New Jersey was  
held on January 31, 1981 at 10:00 AM at Seton  
Hall Law School in Newark, New Jersey.

The total membership of the Association is 50  
members of which 32 were present

The president announced the job openings  
and then proceeded to announce the Committees  
established by the Board of Directors, these are:

A Standing Committees

1- Membership Committee

2- Grievance "

3- Education "

B - Other Committees

1- Public

2- Community Outreach Committee

3- Education Committee which would  
deal with continuing legal education for  
members & provide orientation & leadership  
in dealing with community issues in  
education.

It was announced that Zaida J. Torres,



Treasurer + Carmen González Brown, Secretary had presented their resignations. Since this was the first general meeting of the Puerto Rican Bar Association under Section 8 of the By Laws "Vacancies" we could proceed to elect the two members of the Board. After the resignations were accepted, the nominations were opened + Ricardo Esquivel was elected unanimously. For the Secretary of the Association Maria Figueroa elected unanimously.

A Motion was then presented to change the name in the bank accounts from Jaime Torres to Ricardo Esquivel.

It was then expressed that there was dissatisfaction with the name of the organization + it was moved that the name be changed to

Hispanic Bar Association.

The questionnaire reflected that ~~there were~~ <sup>of the</sup> 13 responses five were in favor P.R. Bar Association of New Jersey + 8 in favor of Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey.

After a discussion of the "pros + cons" by various members we proceeded to vote - 26 voted in favor of "Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey" and two members abstained.



A motion was then presented requesting that the Board of Directors formulate procedures in relation with the flow of information.

The purpose of this motion was to encourage the study and establishment of guidelines for dealing with the media.

It was then decided that the following Committee would meet to establish the Agenda & Priorities of the organization:

- 1- Education Committee - which would deal with Continuing Legal Education & the Moderator was Marta Figueroa
- 2- Government & Judicial Committee - Federico Uchey - Moderator
- 3- Community Outreach Committee -
- 4- Publications Committee - Nestor Guzmán - moderator
- 5- Membership Committee - Chelene - Moderator.
- 6- Ad Hoc Committee to establish a scholarship fund - mainly geared toward Law School Students.



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After the Committee met individually they reported their agenda & chairperson elected. These were:

I Community Outreach Committee - Ronald Hernandez - Chairperson - Agenda:

- a - Community Education - immediate priority.
- b - Legal Assistance
- c - Members of the Association were to submit their resumes to determine their area of expertise to:

Ron Hernandez  
no known place  
Middletown, New Jersey 07748

II Education Committee - Martha Figueroa  
Chairperson - ~~Agenda~~ Agenda

- a - Continuing Legal Education
  - (a) strength basic skills
  - (b) Motiva Bank - they would need the resumes of the members to advise attorney where they could get information or advice.

- c - Area Economic Development  
Develop expertise in Housing Issues  
& other Economic Issues.



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- (d) Reappointment
  - (e) Develop Training Programs + Provide Information.

III Judicial Government Appointment Committee  
Chairperson was not elected - would meet the following week in Paul Tons office to formulate the structure of the Committee. They discussed + decided on the following priorities:

- 1- formation of a sub-committee that would act as "Liaison with the Administration of the Courts"
- 2 Selection of Hispanic Judges.
- 3 Discuss Issue of Empowering in Spanish.
- 4- To become actively involved in the County + State Bar Associations.

IV Public Committee

(a) Newsletter would be distributed ~~regularly~~ quarterly with general information + law related articles. The newsletter would be prepared by five members of the Committee.



They would submit guidelines on how to deal with the media.

It was also ~~decided~~ <sup>stated</sup> that the different Committees would submit their budget to the Treasurer.

## ● Membership Committee

Chairperson was not elected - Agustin

- 1- Ascertain the exact number of Hispanic Attorneys in New Jersey & do an updated list.
- 2- Contact the Hispanic Attorneys by letter or telephone to encourage them to join the Organization
- 3- Visit the various Law Schools in New Jersey for recruiting Law Students for our Association.

A motion was presented for Law Students to pay \$5.00 instead of \$15.00 as it was established in the By Laws. This would be effective retroactively.



## Treasurer's Report

48 members

29 active I

8 " II

3 Associate I

8 " II

# 1110.20 funds received as of Jan. 31, 1981 - this includes \$150.00 contributions from New Jersey Bell

## Miscellaneous

1- President should send letter to Dean of Seton Hall thanking him for the use of the facilities, and to New Jersey Bell acknowledging their contribution

2- A telephone survey should be done to determine the <sup>best</sup> time & day to hold the General meeting.

3- Next General meeting will be in March 1981.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.